

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY NEA TASK FORCE:ESWALKER

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S/S-0 - MR. TWOHIE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 208612

EXDIS, TOSEC 16

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: XX

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S SITREP NO. 2 AS OF 1100 EDT 10-20-73.

1. EGYPTIAN FRONT: FIGHTING IS INTENSE ON BOTH BANKS OF CANAL WITH IDF SPOKESMAN REPORTING THAT ISRAELI FORCES ARE WIDENING THEIR BEACHHEAD ON WEST BANK. ONE IDF ANNOUNCEMENT STATES THAT ROAD TO CAIRO WIDE OPEN. HOWEVER, DEF MIN WAS SOMEWHAT MORE CAUTIOUS, SAYING THAT ISRAEL WAS SCORING IMPRESSIVE ACHIEVEMENTS BUT PRICE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF BLOOD. IT APPEARS CANAL BATTLE HAS STILL NOT BEEN DECIDED EITHER WAY.

2. SYRIAN FRONT: IDF SPOKESMAN CLAIMS THAT SYRIAN FRONT IS RELATIVELY QUIET, SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN COUNTER-ATTACK APPARENTLY HAVING RUN OUT OF STEAM. JORDANIANS ARE REPORTED TO BE MOVING REPLACEMENT TROOPS INTO SYRIAN THEATER AND ARE UNDER STRONG PRESSURE TO COMMIT ANOTHER BRIGADE TO WAR. HUSSEIN IS REPORTED TO BE RESISTING FOR TIME BEING. ISRAEL IS MOVING ARMOR FROM SYRIAN TO EGYPTIAN FRONT.

3. ARAB RELATIONS WITH US: BAHRAIN HAS SERVED NOTICE  
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THAT IT IS ENDING MIDEASTFOR STATION AGREEMENT. BAHRAIN FON MIN SAYS HIS GOVERNMENT WILL HONOR PROVISION FOR ONE YEAR NOTICE BUT PREFERS MORE RAPID US DEPARTURE. IN

EXPLANATION OF MOVE, FON MIN CITED DIFFICULTY OF HAVING

US PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN WHILE, HE SAID, US INTERVENTION IN ME WAS BEING DEMONSTRATED BY SUBMISSION OF BILL TO CONGRESS FOR LARGE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO ISRAEL. THERE ARE CURRENTLY NO US SHIPS IN BAHRAIN PORT; COMMANDER MIDEASTFOR IS NOW ON VISIT SINGAPORE. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 550 AMERICANS INCLUDING DEPENDENTS IN BAHRAIN WITH COMIDEASTFOR.

4. ARAB REACTIONS AGAINST US CITIZENS CONTINUES RESTRAINED IN MOST CAPITALS, BUT SANAA REPORTS INCREASING ANTI-AMERICAN FEELING DUE TO US SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL. ARAB PUBLIC GENERALLY IS NOT YET AWARE OF EXTENT OF EGYPTIAN REVERSES ON BATTLEFIELD AND SANAA, TRIPOLI AND CAIRO ALL ESTIMATE THAT WHEN THIS INFORMATION BECOMES KNOWN POSSIBILITY OF ACTION AGAINST US CITIZENS LIKELY TO INCREASE.

5. REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S TRIP TO MOSCOW: IN APPARENT REACTION TO SECRETARY'S TRIP ISRAELI DEF MIN DAYAN SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT PROPOSE THAT STATE OF ISRAEL SEEK A CEASEFIRE. ON OTHER HAND IF APPEAL CAME FROM ARAB STATES FOR EITHER RETURN TO PREVIOUS LINES OR A CEASEFIRE IN PLACE, DAYAN SAID HE DID NOT THINK ISRAEL WOULD BE IN POSITION TO SAY IT OPPOSES CEASEFIRE AND WANTS CONTINUATION OF WAR. EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER AL AHRAH OCT. 20 SAID RETURN TO NO-PEACE-NO-WAR SITUATION NO LONGER POSSIBLE AND THAT ONLY PATH OPEN IS "LAWFUL WAR UNTIL LAWFUL PEACE" IS ACHIEVED.

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